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Year-End Fundraising for Non-Profits - A Dozen Website and Email Tips

Donor Stewardship

- 1. On your homepage, donation page, and in email messages, highlight your good use of past donations, emphasizing program results. Do this clearly and succinctly, not, for example, in a PDF report.
- 2. Send a thank you e-card to past donors. This could be a simple email, with a compelling image and statement.
- 3. Recognize your donors. An easy method is simply listing the names of donors on your website.

Promote Donations

- 4. Promote year-end giving on your homepage. Also, promote this in a prominent position in your December newsletter.
- 5. Highlight your vision for your organization and make an emotional connection to donors. Also, identify one or two specific goals for the coming year that donation's will support.
- 6. Provide gifts in return for donations. Provide for in-honor-of or in-memory-of donations, sending a card or email notification to the honoree if appropriate.
- 7. Highlight the ability of a donation to provide for last minute gifts. Mention that email notification to gift recipients can go out right at the time of a donation.
- 8. Highlight tax write off benefit of donations.

Facilitate Donations

- 9. Make it a single click from your homepage and from email messages to the donation page.
- 10. To accommodate donors that are reluctant to enter their credit card online, consider a setting up a temporary 800 number and staffing the line during business hours.
- 11. Also, on the donation page provide a print-this-form option and list your mailing address.
- 12. Prominently provide forward-to-friend links on relevant pages on your site and in emails. Craft a compelling introduction for the forwarded messages.